

February 26, 2023

In Support of:

House Bill 5673: AN ACT CONCERNING THE REFORMATION OF CERTAIN  
TAXES AND TAX EQUITY.

Good afternoon distinguished members of the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee!

My name is Danaiyla Mendoza and I reside in the city of New Britain. I am a student at Central Connecticut State University and aim to highlight my major in Philosophy, current Social Justice course, and activity with the New Britain Racial Justice Coalition(NBRJC) as reasons for my testimony.

Understanding Connecticut is following suit to Maryland's set example, I recognize the committee aims to amend the general statutes on imposed taxation before sending it to the Legislative Commissioners' Office in Hartford for full drafting of the bill's text. Thus, I encourage the committee to greatly consider the entirety of what digital advertising is to encompass: excluding online training and or educational content relating to established and recognized outlets.

Maryland itself faced legal discrepancies in correlation to the Constitution and Internet Tax Freedom Act. Additionally, it would distress me to learn that larger corporations then pass the tax onto customers as a separate fee to cover the cost. As a consumer myself, the allocation of the funds I receive are continuously funneled into necessities for the care of my humanity, quite prudently may I add. Therefore, the appropriations of collected revenue matters greatly to me.

There is an opportunity to create a fundamentally sound and economically equitable state. Connecticut happens to have an astounding disproportionate wealth gap amongst its minority population. Quoting the guide from which this testimony was birthed I highlight the following piece of information, "Since the start of the pandemic, Connecticut's 12 billionaires have seized more than \$15 billion in additional wealth. [Internal Analysis]", in comparison to the majority who lost their jobs, their homes, and found themselves financially impoverished since 2019. Consequently I ask the committee to see fit a justifiable distribution of resources that will uplift the lives of these members within Connecticut's community.

As I have dissected the bills legislation to the best of my abilities, I acknowledge my role as a scholar; and aim to bring awareness of your efforts to my fellow compatriots in the most efficacious way.

I hope you receive the information you are entitled to from the Commissioner of Revenue Services.; and do also commend lines 23-28, requiring departments employ individuals of sound ethics to assist, assess, and investigate matters pertaining to financial interest. As a member of this fine Constitution state I wish only for a thriving and equitable state of affairs and that is why I support House Bill 5673.

Thank you for your time!

Sincerely, Danaiyla Mendoza